# **Berkhamsted** review

In this issue

An Uncertain World

Dacorum **Heritage Trust** 

**Father Stephen** Wells

Supermarket **Blues** 

Marc and **Isambard** Kingdom Brunel — Tunnelling **Pioneers** 

Tragedy and New Life

This Month's Notes and **Events** 

36 page issue



March 2005



for Town and Parish

*30p* 



# The Parish Magazine of St Peter's with All Saints'

# Welcome to the March 2005 issue of the Berkhamsted *review*

Easter is early this year and as this issue of the review goes to press, the First Sunday of Lent is already behind us. In this Lenten season it is entirely fitting that several of our contributions touch on the precarious nature of the human condition - whether overawed by the destructive power of the tsunami, or missing the familiar presence of **Father Stephen**. But Easter also falls in March this year and though it is right to be aware of our vulnerability, both physical and spiritual, we must never allow the solemn meditations of Lent to overshadow the triumphant message of Easter. That message gives the lives of Christian people a model of compassion and a sense of purpose. In this issue we draw attention to some of the many opportunities we have to show our compassion - Alex Evans writes about The Children's Society, Liz Baxendale writes about the joyful experience of sponsoring a child in India, and we note the ongoing work of Oxfam and the several causes to be supported this year by the Petertide Fair on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Christopher Green

We have a bonus 4 extra pages this month, making it a 36 page issue

### In this month's issue...

# AN UNCERTAIN WORLD But God's love never fails. Margaret Burbidge writes ......p5 DACORUM HERITAGE TRUST Should the Borough fund it or not? Ian Reay writes ......p7 **FATHER STEPHEN WELLS** Father Basil Jones & Ted Lewis remember a very kind and gentle man ......p9 SUPERMARKET BLUES Gerry Morrish in poetic vein .....p11 MARC & ISAMBARD KINGDOM **BRUNEL—TUNNELLING PIONEERS** Stephen Halliday traces the inspiration behind the first tunnelling machine ......p14 TRAGEDY AND NEW LIFE **Doreen Knapp** reflects on the forces of ... plus our regular features, notes & notices and diary dates

Cover photograph — from the David Peace and Sally Scott window in St Peter's (see p34) photo: Tony Firshman

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Where have the last three years gone?

Father Martin says farewell

# review leader

They say that time seems to go faster when you get older and Geraldine and I can't understand where more than three years have gone. I suppose we could say, simply, that they have gone quickly because

we have enjoyed them so much. When I was invited to join the Parish of Great Berkhamsted, I was really pleased, because I was excited by the challenge presented by both the work with the ecumenical partnership at All Saints' and the chance to work alongside Fr Mark and the rest of the team.

You will be aware that I came here in the fulfilment of a vision and dream to become a full time minister, a parish priest working both in and alongside the community. Being a headteacher had been very rewarding but working here full time has been a great experience. The people of Berkhamsted have taught me so much and I am going to miss you all enormously.

I am delighted that the Anglican and Methodist congregations have been able to fulfil the vision of the last twenty five years or more in coming together to worship each Sunday morning. I am grateful for the friendship, camaraderie and professionalism shared with the Revd Paul Timmis, the Methodist Minister at All Saints' over the last three years. I wish him and his family, and all the people at All Saints' every blessing in their journey together.

St Peter's and All Saints' have been blessed over many years and it is obviously going to be a real challenge for everyone as the parish enters a new era as part of a team ministry. I am, personally, indebted to **Fr Mark Bonney** for his wise counsel and for

his friendship, which will of course continue. The ministry team of Clergy, Readers and our 'young by name and nature' youth worker, Jimmy; have had a great time working together and I am so pleased to have had that privilege over the last three years. I have to say that I was particularly inspired by my friendship with **Stephen Wells** and I will miss his humour and spiritual presence.

It is wonderful to be leaving a church that is continuing to build, not only in numerical strength including the younger age group, but also in spirituality and shared community. However, it will take every ounce of determination to follow that route if St Peter's and All Saints' is to continue to be a parish of outreach and prepared to be sacrificial in its giving (OK Michael!).

Geraldine joins me in asking for God's blessing on all you do and we hope to keep in touch. My last Sunday services will be on Easter Day – at All Saints' at 10.00am for the Eucharist in the morning and St Peter's for Festival Evensong at 6.00pm. I hope as many of you as possible will be there at either or both services. The following weekend I am leading the Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham. I shall also be here for the Confirmation service at 7.00pm on Saturday 16 April when we welcome the Bishop of Hertford to St Peter's. You will also know by now, that my Induction as the Vicar of St Mark's, Reigate is on Wednesday 18 May at 8.00pm. It's a straight forward journey round the M25 so we are both hoping that a number of you will be able to come and share the service and the festivities afterwards.

#### May God bless you all.

(see Notes and Notices—pp. 25 & 29)

\*

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In the weeks since Christmas we have all experienced the pain of tragedy and loss. The uncertain world in which we live brought shock and bewilderment as the full effect of the tsunami pain was not limited to global events. members in Berkhamsted along with many, many others have been

saddened by the sudden death of **Stephen Wells**. It has felt like dark times and we have had to draw deep from our faith that the light of God's love does shine in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

MU, as a world wide organisation, brings light to the dark places of our world and is responding to the call for help from South Asia. It is not an Aid Agency like Oxfam and Christian Aid, with structures in place to respond immediately to provide practical help on a large scale. When disaster strikes MU channels money through its connections with the Anglican churches, and can only do this where those links are strong. Information available at the time of writing says that grants from the Relief Fund totalling £12,000 have already been made to the church of North India for those affected on the Andaman and Nicobar islands, to the diocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka to purchase emergency supplies and to Christ Church, Bangkok for food, medicines household items.

MU has been able to make contact with links in Mauritius, Madagascar and South India and are assessing what help may be able to be given there. This is small scale aid, but much needed, and there is deep appreciation of the concern and prayers of MU members right across the world. For this is a light, however tiny, shining in the darkness, which will continue to burn as MU supports the longer term reconstruction of devastated communities.

# Mothers' Union

### An Uncertain World

full effect of the tsunami But God's love never fails. But God's love never fails. Our deanery chaplain in the Margaret Burbidge writes late 1990s, but it was as a



The death of **Stephen Wells** was like a light suddenly extinguished, leaving **MU** members of this branch feeling lost and bereft. Stephen had supported **MU** in many ways and had been our deanery chaplain in the late 1990s, but it was as a priest in this parish and friend of the branch that we particularly remember him. Whenever we met at his and Jenny's home. he

would welcome us and later produce the tea and coffee, laid out with care on the trolley. Stephen celebrated the Eucharist for us in his sitting room, and there was always something special to think about and take home. He made us feel special too, as he broke bread and blessed wine and shared it with us and so supported our commitment to everything MU stands for. That is something we will all miss.

At our January meeting we remembered Stephen, shared stories of how he had touched our lives and lit candles in his memory. Following Stephen's example we then looked outwards, and prayed for the victims of the tsunami and held before God the pain of Africa. We looked to a world where at times darkness threatens to extinguish the light, but knowing that we had all been touched by the light of Christ shining through Stephen, we were a little more resolved to bring that light to the darkness of others.

As was said at his funeral, Stephen surely was God's gentle man.

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In the debate on the latest of the seemingly endless rounds of budget cuts that the borough council has to make, the responses from the public have been rather more varied than previous years. council uses four different methods getting of feedback on its budget proposals. In essence these are three opinion surveys residents. from stakeholders and from

council staff and a structured interview technique. In this interview certain residents are asked a series of questions which are designed to lead to an ideal budget model, which is supposed to maximise overall happiness! This is known as a Simalto exercise. Previously all four sources have come up with a broadly similar view of where cuts should fall and/ or where spending should be increased. This year though was rather different. Although there were general similarities between the three opinion surveys (of residents, stakeholders and staff), the results from the Simalto exercise were way adrift.

The most startling difference was in the attitude to the grant to the Dacorum Heritage Trust. From the Simalto interviews alone this was top of the list for cutting. On the other hand, all the other feedback exercises resulted in putting this close to the bottom of the list. Although there were some other differences of view between the four methods, none was as stark as this one. If we were to take note of the Simalto exercise alone there would be no question about it - cut the DHT grant. On the other hand if we were to ignore Simalto and look only at the public views expressed in the three opinion surveys saving the DHT is high priority. In fact if we just take simply the number of comments received from the survey of residents' opinions, there were more statements against cutting the DHT grant (107) than on all other specific proposals



# Dacorum Heritage Trust

Should the Borough fund it or not? **Ian Reay** writes

combined (89).

Clearly ticking boxes to give an opinion cannot of itself be enough. A ticked box does not say anything about the strength of feeling behind the tick. More importantly, it does not say anything about how well- or ill- informed the box-ticker is about the matter being addressed. Anybody can tick a box

but there is no accountability for the action or necessarily any understanding of the consequences. All of which has to be taken into account before a decision is made.

The grant that the borough council makes to the DHT (£69,000 last year) pays for the core staff. But this creates opportunities to raise funds from elsewhere - £25,000 from other grants and £88,000 worth of time and trouble from volunteers. Giving £69,000 to obtain £182,000 of value looks like a good investment. Conversely, cutting £69,000 and destroying £182,000 of value does not appear to make financial sense. All the material in the Trust's museum store at Berkhamsted is owned by a variety of different groups and it cannot simply be thrown away - and, of course, its historical or archaeological significance cannot be valued. Storage would, in any case, need to be found and this would have a cost. This information was not available to the Simalto participants.

The Simalto interviewing technique is a very cleverly designed process for drawing out a consensus from a balanced and representative group of people. But for it to work properly the participants need to be randomly selected and the interviews should take place in private so that groupthink does not take over. If the technique is not properly applied, as has been seen here, it can lead to very unrepresentative outcomes. Fortunately the borough council did not rely on this approach alone.

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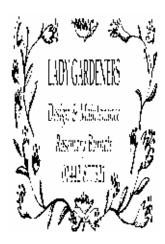
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### **Father Basil writes:**

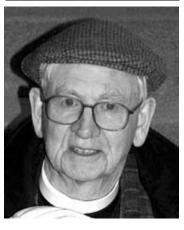
Stephen Wells was one of the nicest men I have ever known. How I shall miss his beautiful smile and outstretched hands. He was a near perfect Church of England clergyman and always ready to persuade me to take a more charitable view whatever had befallen. He was undoubtedly quite the best colleague that I have ever had the good fortune to work alongside in any profession. If he could help he did. and untold thousands will have benefited from his life long ministry. He inspired me in all sorts of ways including digging for victory on an allotment. We shall miss his bucketful of marrows which was there to trip you up after any meeting or service. He was a priest par

excellence and it was fitting that GOD allowed him to celebrate the Holy Mysteries on the day he died. He was a teacher, and countless numbers will have had their faith deepened by his gentle instruction. He had an intriguing way of turning over his shorthand pad as he was preaching, and I expect this to have been observed by sharp-eyed members of the choir. As a pastor he was in the very best traditions of the Church; Berkhamsted and the surrounding parishes were extremely fortunate to experience them in the full flowering of his ministerial priesthood.

Recently the Tuesday Club was enthralled to hear of his early years as a deacon and priest in a big parish in Poplar, where he cut his teeth as it were, and where a lifelong routine of service was installed in a willing pupil. He came from a clerical family and

# FATHER STEPHEN WELLS

Father Basil & Ted Lewis remember a very kind and gentle man



his son, Sam and daughter in law Jo continue this tradition, as does his daughter Charis who is the head of the Church School at Little Gaddesden. Her husband Fr Luke is of course our NSM. Stephen and Jenny's families had known each other for many years before both were widowed. Some vears later, and much to Jenny's surprise, they married. Stephen was blessed with both Ruth and Jenny and told me once that as a member of a long lived family he expected to enjoy two silver weddings. Jenny was a great support to him and still is to

All those who knew Stephen will have their own memories of him. He had the gift of making each one us feel special because he always gave us

his undivided attention. May he rest in peace.

### **Ted Lewis writes:**

I had the privilege and pleasure of assisting Stephen when serving at the Friday 9.15 service over the last few months and it was at those services that I came to know him better. He was always happy and had a permanent twinkle in his eye indicating his very kind sense of humour. As a middle of the road Anglican, some of our liturgy was a little foreign to him so that I had inevitably to remind him of the final elevation of the sacrament with a hard ring on the sanctuary bell, followed by two more rings at extended intervals to allow him to catch up. Perhaps he was also a little absent-minded, which might explain his

**→**p17

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# Bereavement and Loss Support Group

There is a warm welcome on the first Sunday of each month from 3.00-4.30pm in the Northchurch Baptist Church Hall, High Street, Northchurch, for any who might feel the need of support at a time of loss. Do drop in for a cuppa and a chat.

For enquiries please ring Church Office Telephone 01442 877001 between 9am-12 noon weekdays.

# review poetry

### **Supermarket Blues**

### Gerry Morrish in poetic vein

I've come to Waitrose, feeling jolly - I love to whiz round with my trolley, But where's my shopping list? Oh dear! I've left the thing at home, I fear. Ah well, I'll phone the wife. She's there. "It's in the kitchen, on my chair." Five minutes pass then back comes she: "I found it under the settee." And as she reads out every item With stubby pencil down I write 'em. Now what comes first? What's this strange

ILBAGGLES? Nonsense, quite absurd! But then, eureka! I'm inspired -One pound of apples is required, Or else, as metric we must be, In kilograms point four five three. I'll take these Braeburns. Now what next? WALRUS it looks like. I'm perplexed. At last the answer springs to mind -It's walnuts that I need to find. So it goes on, until I'm through And have to join the checkout queue. Which one? The shortest obviously! A bad mistake that proves to be. For those before me like to chat Unhurriedly of this and that. The checkout lady gladly joins The gossip, bored with cards and coins. She sits oblivious of her till, while nothing moves, and time stands still. Meanwhile I fume and fret and sigh As other queues pass briskly by. But in the end - hooray, hooray! I'm at the front. It's time to pay. What's this? Oh no, it can't be true -I've come without my wallet too.



Judith Limbert presiding at the Petertide Fair book stall 2004, where they made a record amount. She'll be there again this year on June 25<sup>th</sup> and will accept donations any time.

Photograph—Rowena Pike

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othering Sunday on **1**6<sup>th</sup> March will see St. Peter's and churches across the land filled with children and their parents. The child centred service enables us to give thanks for the supreme blessing of parenthood. Many a parent's eye will moisten with happiness as the children scurry around the church lovingly delivering the floral posies. Baptisms

on the day at St. Peter's will remind us all of baptismal our vows as welcome new members into the family of the Church. In the words of service: "surround these children with your love; protect them from evil; fill them with your Holy Spirit".

# SAFE AND SOUND ON MOTHERING SUNDAY

### But not for every child

Alex Evans writes about the work of the Children's Society



# With children, for children, with you Sound Sign-Up,

Sadly, The Church of England Children's Society, (to give its full name), encounters in its daily work the opposite extremes of the loving and comforting sentiments in our service.

Today's **Children's Society** was founded in 1881 as the Church of England's Central Home for Waifs and Strays. It is shocking that, more than 120 years later, over 100,000 children are thrown out or run away from home each year. Detailed research by **The Children's Society** has shown the causes, and what happens to the runaways. One in seven will be physically or sexually assaulted, all of them are at serious risk. In response, **The Children's Society** has embarked on its Safe and Sound campaign, started in

2003. The campaign calls for local authorities to provide the support to today's waifs and strays that the government recommends, and the setting up of a national network of safe e m e r g e n c y accommodation and support services.

As we enjoy the service and the excitement of

children Mothering Sunday, please spare a thought for deprived children on the streets, unprotected from evil, who deserve a better future. Α The petition, Big Safe and with a target of

100,000 signatures, one for each child at risk, will be available for your signature at the service. Please sign it as an expression of your concern.

The Children's Society needs money for its research, campaigning, and working with children. An easy way for you to contribute is by the house-box scheme, filled with your loose change over the months. Your Mothering Sunday posy is a transient token of love and appreciation. A house-box is a continuing reminder of our good fortune as parents, god parents and grandparents, and a practical way to help deprived children reach out for a better future. Please take a house-box from Kathy Lally on Mothering Sunday, and join the many parishioners who are already members of the house-box scheme.

sambard Kingdom Brunel is, perhaps, the most famous of all engineers with a legacy of railways, tunnels, ships and bridges. His father, Marc Isambard Brunel is less well-known yet, like his famous son, he left a permanent mark on the history of England, and of London.

### A French Englishman

Marc was born in Normandy in 1769 but during the Jacobin terror he fled to the United States where he became city engineer to the rapidly growing of New York. Returning to England in 1799 he married Sophia and their

son, Isambard, was born in April 1806. The family was enterprising but

penniless. During the course of his long life **Marc Brunel** registered seventeen patents some of which could have brought him great wealth. For example, one of the major bottlenecks in the construction of warships lay in the production of ships' blocks through which ropes passed to operate the sails. These were made by hand and Marc patented a method of making them by machine, thereby removing this obstacle to the expansion of the Royal Navy. He also invented an early typewriter, a cotton-winding machine, a knitting machine and a boot-making machine.

# Marc & Isambard Kingdom Brunel Tunnelling Pioneers

**Stephen Halliday** traces the inspiration behind the first tunnelling machine



Marc Isambard Brunel



Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Although a Fellow of the Royal Society he was less than adept at exploiting his inventions. He produced army boots in response to orders from the war office but they were cancelled, re-instated, then after Waterloo. cancelled again. Admiralty showed marked reluctance to pay for the ships blocks and then Marc's profitable sawmill burned down, leading to the discovery

> that his partner had been cheating him. In 1821 Marc was sent to prison for debt. With t h e Admiralty refusing to pay h i m h e announced that he had written to Tsar Alexander of Russia offering to place himself, and his patents, at

the Tsar's service. Finally, the government paid him £5,000 on condition that he stayed away

from Russia. With his debts discharged, Marc emerged from prison and resumed his career as an inventor

### Teredo Navalis

Marc had become intrigued by the method by which the shipworm, or *teredo navalis*, tunnelled into the wooden ships. While it ate into the wood with its jaws its excrement hardened into a solid lining which prevented the resultant tunnel from collapsing and burying it. This was a principle which became the basis of a patent which he registered in January 1818

for a *tunnelling shield*. This was devised in response to a long-felt need to construct a tunnel beneath the Thames below London Bridge through the unstable sand, gravel and clay that was known to lie beneath the river.

The shield was divided into thirty-six compartments on three levels and each compartment would contain a miner who would excavate the ground before him with pick and shovel, passing the earth that he had hacked out back to others for removal. When a sufficient volume of earth had been dug out the shield would be pushed forward by screw jacks and work would begin on the next section. In the meantime bricklayers would follow behind, lining the tunnel as the shield advanced. Marc described his invention to a gathering at the Institution of Civil Engineers on 17th February, 1824, where it was received with enthusiasm.

After his presentation to the Civil Engineers Marc held a public meeting, at which members of the audience were invited to subscribe to the Thames Tunnel Company. Marc succeeded in raising £179,000 and the subscribers included many well-informed and well-connected men of the time: **Baring** of Edward Baring's Benjamin Hawes, later Secretary of War; and the engineering Bramahs, descendants of Joseph Bramah whose many inventions included the Victorian water-closet and an unpickable lock. The chairman of the Thames Tunnel Company was to be a wellconnected MP called William Smith.

The shield, weighing 80 tons in all, was constructed in twelve cast-iron sections, however it first had to be put in place. An iron cylinder, fifty feet in diameter and three feet high was placed on the ground at Rotherhithe. The lower side of the cylinder, in contact with the ground, had been sharpened so that it would cut into the earth. The brick walls of the shaft were then built on the upper side of the cylinder which, in effect, formed the shaft's foundations.

When the brick walls of the shaft had reached their required height above the ground workmen then began to dig out the earth within and beneath the ring. As the men excavated, the shaft sank beneath the weight of the bricks and by June, 1825 it had reached the required depth some eighty feet below high water mark. Marc wanted to excavate a sump beneath the shaft to drain water from the tunnel workings but the chairman, William Smith, opposed it on grounds of economy. November 1825 In tunnelling shield was in place and tunnelling could finally begin.

# Isambard Kingdom Brunel, resident engineer

Marc employed a resident engineer to oversee work but he suffered a breakdown in his health in August 1826 so Marc's 20-year old son Isambard now took over the task. There were many difficulties encountered in teaching the miners to use the new shield and to work as a team so that advancement was not held up by differences in the pace of work amongst the thirty-six men engaged at any one time

Isambard's appointment was followed by more rapid progress but this was accompanied by problems. The shield was buckled and there occurred the first in a series of incidents which were to bedevil the tunnel's progress: seepage of water from the river above. The layer of clay that was supposed to protect the workings wasn't thick enough. In May 1827 a greater volume of water began to leak into the tunnel. Tunnelling ceased and Isambard hired a diving bell with which to inspect the workings. Candle-lit, Isambard was lowered into the Thames above the area where he believed the tunnel was being breached. By this hazardous process, performed on more than one occasion, he located the breach and arranged for it to be sealed with bags of clay

### ←p15 The Brunels

The water was then pumped out. **Isambard Kingdom Brunel** was a *han* 

**Isambard Kingdom Brunel** was a *hands-on* engineer!

In October tunnelling resumed after a sixmonth delay and with William Smith losing confidence in Marc Brunel's judgement. Funds were running out and this was a time of great anxiety, heightened by the decision of the directors to raise cash by admitting spectators to the tunnel to watch the work, charging them a shilling each. In August, Marc suffered a breakdown in his health and Isambard made notes in his journal which reflected both an awareness of his weaknesses and the determination that he now displayed in his efforts to complete the task.

In January 1828 there was a disastrous flood. Isambard was hauled out, unconscious, but six workers lost their lives. The tunnel was barely half-completed and funds were exhausted. **The Duke of Wellington**, then Prime Minister, gave support with his own money but few

others followed. Of the £200,000 required, only £9,600 was subscribed by investors. In August the tunnel was closed. The only hope now lay in an advance from the government. Six years passed before the personal antagonisms which had begun to afflict the project were resolved and in the meantime *The Times*, tired of the delays, accidents and problems which had kept the tunnel in the headlines, began to refer to it as *The Great Bore*. The tunnel had reached its lowest fortunes.

Next month: A tunnel & a railway station From **Stephen Halliday's** book *Making* the Metropolis: Creators of Victoria's London, available from Ottakar's, High Street, Berkhamsted.

**Michael Robinson** reports overhearing a teacher showing a group of young children the tomb of Henry of Berkhamsted and his wife (p25) in the Lady Chapel at St Peter's:

"Who do you think they are?" ...

"No, I don't think it's Mary and Joseph."



# ST PETER'S Berkhamsted



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from Ottakar's or Bookthrift - both of Berkhamsted

The Cowper Society is a member of the Berkhamsted Arts Trust which is supported financially by Dacorum Borough Council

### ←p9 Fr Wells

occasional omission of the absolution after the confession. Whatever the cause of these idiosyncrasies, he was greatly loved by the regulars at that service - usually about twelve in number - not least because of his practice of giving us a little instruction on the life of the saint appointed in the lectionary for the day or, if he thought the appointed saint was not terribly interesting, then of someone else. I feel it most appropriate that in his last such instruction he told us about St Hilary, whom he described as a very kind and gentle man. I can think of no better words to describe a man whom I and many others considered as a true and valued friend.



# review registers

### **Baptisms** (St Peter's)

16 January Benedict William Holmes-Higgin, Lily Alexandra Simms

### Blessing (St Peter's)

23 January Finley Cook

### **Baptisms (All Saints')**

6 February Jessica Rose McLeish, Max Alexander McLeish, Eva May McLeish

#### **Funerals**

14 JanuaryDoreen Patricia BiggsChilterns Crematorium19 JanuaryJohn Joseph CheneyAmersham Crematorium26 JanuaryNicholas PearsSt Peter's Church (Kingshill)27 JanuaryStephen Glossop WellsSt Peter's Church (Chilterns)28 JanuaryDaphne MinettSt Peter's Church (Kingshill)





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Louise Turner *soprano* Hazel Todd *oboe*Mary Harris 'cello, Adrian Davis harpsichord
with retiring collection in aid of World Vision

The Cowper Society is a member of the Berkhamsted Arts Trust which is supported financially by Dacorum Borough Council

# review easterservices

### PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK & EASTER DAY

### 20 MARCH – 27 MARCH

PALM S	SUNDAY	
Sun 20	8.00am	Eucharist with Palm Crosses
	9.00am	Blessing of Palmsoutside Waitrose
		followed by two processions: one to St Peter's and one to All Saints'
	9.30am	Solemn Passion & Sung EucharistSt Peter's
	10.00am	Holy Communion - Methodist led
	6.00pm	A Programme for Palm Sunday -
		Chiltern Chamber ChoirSt Peter's
MONDA	AY IN HOI	V WEEK
Mon 21	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & Compline
21	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & Compline - Anglican led
	oloopin	words from the cross & compline Trighten redimining In Busins
TUESDA	AY IN HO	LY WEEK
Tue 22	9.30am	Eucharist
	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & ComplineSt Peter's
	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & Compline - Methodist led
WEDNE	SDAV IN	HOLY WEEK
Wed 23	8.00am	Eucharist
W Cu 23	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & Compline
	8.00pm	Words from the Cross & Compline - Anglican led
	o.oopiii	words from the cross & compline - Augustan Icu
MAUNI	Y THURS	SDAY
Thu 24	11.00am	Eucharist
	8.00pm	Eucharist of the Lord's Supper and Vigil of Prayer
		Preacher: The Revd Canon Dick ClarksonSt Peter's
	8.00pm	Communion & Vigil of Prayer – Methodist led
GOOD I	FRIDAY	
Fri 25	10.00am	Ecumenical open air service in the
111 20	12noon	Three Hour Devotion including the Liturgy of the Day
	12110011	Preacher: The Revd Canon Dick Clarkson
		Treatment. The never canon been carried management of the s
EASTEI	R EVE	
Sat 26	9.00pm	The Easter VigilSt Peter's
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
EASTEI	R DAY (s	tart of British Summer Time – the clocks go forward)
Sun 27	7.00am	Ecumenical Service in the grounds ofBerkhamsted Castle
	8.00am	Eucharist
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist
	10.00am	Family Eucharist – Anglican led
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
	-	-

In 1989 I received a letter from an Indian boy I had sponsored for seven years through one of the largest international children's charities. This letter, written in August was the first that reached me direct from him. He was now sixteen and the terms of my sponsorship had come to an end. I had

helped him through secondary education for the princely sum of £40 per annum.

I remember when the documents about him arrived - "If you do not want this child, we will send details of others." Wrote the charity. I looked at the photo of a rather solemn-faced eleven year old and wondered if anyone ever said "Send the others".

So I took Lalmohon on. His background was poor - a widowed mother not in good health, with three sons and a daughter - two of the sons making a meagre living for the family by weaving material on a handloom. They lived in an earth-floored, three-roomed house and kept a couple of goats and a few chickens.

At his primary school Lal, as I came to call him, was noted as a bright pupil, eager to learn. This was why he was put up for sponsorship.

Once his *charitable status* finished, our correspondence became rather spasmodic. He was busy with university and exams, but we always exchanged cards at New Year and I wrote whenever I could. He kept me informed of any problems he had, or would ask advice about training schemes in Great Britain for friends. Over the years we learnt a great deal about each other's culture and customs.

I was thrilled when he wrote to me and the letter bore the legend *Doctor* before his name. I was as disappointed as he was when a good job fell through at the last

# EDUCATION ... AND A BABY

Helping to make a fairer world. Liz Baxendale writes minute. I was delighted when he got a place at the Indian Agriculture and Scientific Research Institute in New Delhi. I worried about him as he went on to live in a small flat and could not cook!

Two years ago he wrote that he had married. His wife is an English Literature

graduate who writes perfect and colloquial English, quoting from writers I have never heard of let alone read. In November last year I had a phone call from Delhi to tell me that their first child had arrived safely a little girl called Shreyashi. I feel entitled to call myself an Indian Granny!

Lalmohon is working for the good of his country in an important field. Suvechcha, his wife, will almost certainly go back to teaching in due course and the little one will become an educated Indian girl. Not a bad return for my money I think.

And all this has come about because of EDUCATION. This is why I try to help Hope for Children by making school bags. There are millions of children in the world with no hope of education at present. If we are to make poverty a thing of the past, we must make education a thing of the present, and making a present of education is the greatest gift we can give a child.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, receiving and sending personal letters to him or her, you could do so through the charity Plan International. The present cost is £14 monthly. Contact them at 5-7 Underhill Street, London NW1 7HS for details

Through them I am now in contact with a lovely young lady in Togo whose father is a peanut farmer. I wonder what path her life will take?

# review letters

### **The Asian Tsunami Disaster**

The following extract is from a letter received by **Muriel Lander** from a friend with relatives living in Thailand and directly affected by the earthquake:

"We had quite a worrying time when the earthquake in Asia was announced. My cousin's son and his three sons have a business in Thailand. They charter ocean-going yachts and also take people deep-sea diving. There were e-mails flying all round the family asking if anyone had heard anything as of course initially it was a job to find out anything. However, one of the sons was going down for a swim at the time and having lived there for about fifteen years, he knew the tides and when he saw the tide was going out at a rapid rate and leaving the fish behind he knew something was wrong so he hurried back to their office (200 yards from the beach) to warn them. By that time the waves had reached them but they all managed to scramble to the top of the building and were OK. It so happened that their yachts were out at sea in the Burma region so were also OK. Since when they have been helping the aid workers, as of course there is no business yet - but eventually no doubt the tourists will gradually return. My cousin says the rate at which people are re-building their premises is amazing and everyone hopes that by the summer things will be up and running again for a lot of them. There are so many parts of Asia that you feel are beyond repair, don't you. I feel so sorry for all the little children, they look so bewildered. It made Lucy, my friend's grand-daughter, cry to see them, so one way or another she had had £50 in presents for Christmas and she sent it to the fund which was set up at her school."

Muriel adds that one of her great nephews also sent the birthday money he received. He's a sixteen year old and said he wasn't in need of anything in particular.

# reviewpoetry

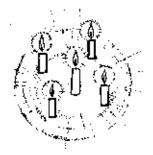
**Vivien Dottridge**, inspired by Beethoven's *Choral Symphony* and Schiller's *Ode to Joy*, reflects on the Indian Ocean Tsunami.

Brothers, sisters, keep hope burning! There's joy and fear in Nature's power Amazing, exciting, restless planet, Fragile Earth fills us with awe. Maybe Earth was not made easy, So we'd grow - take forward path Through our struggles and disasters -Inspiration, learning, faith!

Loving Father God is with us, Longs to work in human plans. Set this universe in motion; Mind behind the great Big Bang! In our freedom there is challenge, A fairer world we'll work to see. Sisters, Brothers, keep on caring -Love not hate our enemy! St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted Eastertide Service of

# Thanksgiving & Commemoration





for departed friends and family

6pm Sunday April 10th St Peter's Church Preacher The Revd Liz Hughes

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# Been to the Post Office?

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Drawing by Mary Casserley, with permission

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# review northchurch

### Tragedy and New Life

Doreen Knapp, Reader at St Mary's, reflects on the forces of nature During the last weeks in the aftermath of the Asian tsunami disaster, our television screens have brought before us scenes of death and destruction, human misery and suffering, on a scale unknown in our lifetime.

Such scenes of devastation instil an awareness of our human frailty when confronted with the great power and forces within the natural world. We are also made aware of our human interdependence and our need as individuals and nations to respond to one another's needs with compassion and the sharing of resources.

This tragedy has triggered a huge response of generous giving, and the world's biggest relief operation has swung into action. Millions of pounds, euros and dollars have been pledged by governments and individual men, women and children to bring aid to the vast number of survivors who have lost so much - their homes, their families, their livelihoods.

The commandment that Jesus gave that we should love one another has been brought home to everyone, and a willing and generous response to that command needs to continue through sustained giving and through our prayers of concern and compassion. In the mean time, we carry out our lives as normal with the knowledge of the suffering and loss being endured by the families directly affected by the tsunami tragedy.

During the coming days, signs of new life of Springtime will emerge within our gardens and the beautiful Chiltern countryside which we are so privileged to enjoy. Gardens and woodlands will be graced by drifts of snowdrops, their fragile beauty lighting up the darkness of gloomy winter days.

This year, may these spring flowers be to us a symbol and reminder of the many candles that were lit and many prayers offered for the victims of the tsunami and their families. May the flowers' white luminosity remind us of the loving and generous response to this darkest of natural disasters, and become a symbol of the enduring and everlasting love which shines in our world.

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# review notes & notices

### FATHER MARTIN WRIGHT

Father Martin's induction and installation in his new parish will take place at St Mark's Church, Reigate at 8.00pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May. It is expected that a coach will be arranged from St Peter's and All Saints'. Details will be published in our next issue

### THE PETERTIDE FAIR

The date for your diaries is Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June. The money raised this year will go to three good causes: the *Send a Cow* charity helping people to help themselves in rural areas of the developing world - a scheme actively supported by St Peter's Sunday School; the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home; and the Gossoms End Scout Group - to provide modern facilities in a renovated scout hut.

All the usual attractions will be there. Let's hope for good weather.

# What & Where in St Peter's?



email review@c-ofe.freeserve.co.uk Answer next month

# OXFAM'S 20<sup>th</sup> CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

The 20<sup>th</sup> Children's Wear Event taking place in the Civic Centre on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March between 9.00-11.30am is another local opportunity to raise funds for emergency response and poverty relief. Oxfam shops raise money by selling goods and it is only rarely that donated clothes are sent overseas. Your donation provides the goods for sale, while buying goods at the Event turns them into Oxfam's vital funds.

The Boxing Day tsunami generated an unprecedented response. The legendary generosity of Berkhamsted's families has given rise to an exceptional quality of the spring and summer children's clothes, toys, books and equipment to be available at the Children's Wear Event. Come and buy the bargains which will be available, and support Oxfam in its vital work.

# Answer to February's What & Where in St Peter's?



The traditional lion at the feet of Henry of Berkhamsted, on his and his wife's tomb in the Lady Chapel.





# **Court House C**offee **B**ar

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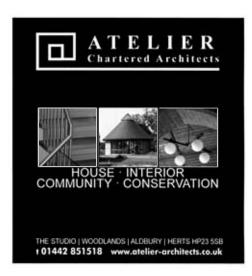
# review notes & notices

### **AEOLIAN SINGERS**

Whilst choral societies up and down the country will lean at this time of year to the great Passions of Bach, Hemel Hempstead's **Aeolian Singers** will be helping to fulfill the dream of one of the nation 's greatest cellists **Julian Lloyd Webber**. They have chosen to perform *The Divine Compassion* by Julian's father, **William Lloyd Webber** - a moving Easter composition which, although little known, when heard, cannot fail to touch the hearts of those who love the mighty *St John Passion*, or Stainer's *Crucifixion*.

The haunting, familiar words, based on the Gospel of St John, in the Lloyd Webber work bring them very close to a church congregation, who also have the chance to join in with the hymns which form part of the performance. The music is melodic, skilfully written, romantic and lovely to sing as well as to listen to.

Julian and his brother Andrew were reared in a musical household. Their father, a talented organist, held appointments at the Central Hall, Westminster and the Royal College of Music and was the director of the London College of Music in 1961, but as a composer



he got little recognition and he was not a man to promote himself. **Margaret Campbell,** in her biography of Julian tells us how he became more and more depressed as publishers often ignored his work. His composing became a taboo subject at home and he took solace in drink He was proud of his two sons and their success, but their fame also made his self-perceived failure harder to bear.

Pianist John Lill maintained that Bill was one of the six or seven truly great musical minds he encountered in a career that included working with Sir John Barbirolli, Sir Adrian Boult, André Previn and many others.

After his father's death, Julian determined that his copious music would become more recognised and pledged himself to promoting it. Although Bill never wrote a symphony - probably a reason why he was not well-valued - he nevertheless has a substantial list of publications, ranging through orchestral, instrumental and piano duos, piano works, anthems, choral and vocal items, carols and much organ music.

At the concert at St John's Church, Boxmoor, on Saturday, March 12, Julian Lloyd Webber's biographer, Margaret Campbell will give a short talk on the composer. Margaret lives in Berkhamsted and is a well known biographer of many musicians and a regular contributor to the national press and to magazines such as The Strad, Classical Music and BBC Music Magazine.

Another local musician, Simon Berridge will take the tenor role. The Aeolian Singers musical director Stephen Jones will be the conductor and at the organ will be Andrew Earis, the Aeolians' current accompanist.

Tickets for the concert cost £10 and are all unreserved (full time students £5), available from choir members or the Box Office (871598).

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# review notes & notices

### BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



We met at 2.00pm on the first Friday of February in the Court House. President for the month, Liz Baxendale, welcomed members and as the speaker for the afternoon was Brian Barton,

talking about Ashridge and the deer, Liz read a poem entitled *Deer* by **John Drinkwater** and then a short passage from **Longfellow**'s *Hiawatha* in which the young brave kills his first stag.

The business meeting was quite brief but included Town Topics in which members again bemoaned the awful state of both the road surfaces and the pavements in Berkhamsted. It had been noted that patchwork repairs were being carried out on some roadways in the area, but these hardly make travelling any more comfortable. Meanwhile those who walk in the town centre are in danger of breaking limbs on the numerous uneven, broken paving stones. It was the opinion of members that more should be done to stop those who park on pavements - an activity that damages the paved areas of our town. The pavement outside Boots and WH Smith is especially bad, and it does not take the standard depth of unevenness to cause someone to trip.

We then had an interesting and comprehensive illustrated talk about the deer in Ashridge. **Brian Barton** gave the history of the estate and how the different species of deer came to be there at different stages of that history. We saw slides of the area and of the various deer and we also heard the amazing calls that each makes at the rutting season.

Mrs Barton judged the competition and Joy Lovell was the winner with a brass model of a deer. Tea and delicious homemade cakes followed (thanks to Sue Ball for arranging that) and the raffle was

drawn. The *Store Cupboard* stall did brisk trade during the afternoon to help our funds along a bit.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> **Mrs Isobel Leek** will talk about *Our Victorian Legacy in the Garden*. Why not come and join us. You will be most welcome.

# GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The Annual Thanksgiving and Memorial Service will be held at St Peter's Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm - see advert on p22. Transport available - contact **Thelma Harris** (865785) or **Sylvia Banks** (871195)

### **TUESDAY CLUB**

The February meeting was a celebration of our 32nd Birthday and we were delighted to welcome six visitors. Our guest speaker **Professor Eric Brown** gave us a fascinating insight into the structure of the Chiltern Hills and the ground on which Berkhamsted is built. It was an enjoyable evening.

#### FAREWELL PARTY

A farewell party for **Father Martin** will take place on Easter Sunday in All Saints Hall between 3.00pm and 5.00pm. It will be followed at 6.00pm at St Peter's by Choral Evensong. This will be the last service at which **Father Martin** will preside before he leaves us for his new parish in Surrey.

### BERKHAMSTED QUIET PLACES

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March at Hill House - *Time to be Still* - To reserve a place 'phone **Frances Norrington** (871855)



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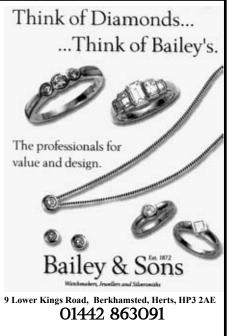


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# review notes&notices

### THE BERKHAMSTED WALK AND STROLL

This event in aid of **The Children's Society** takes place on Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Route planning and proving, printing and publicity all take place in January and February. Winter's grip and muddy paths make the spring delights of the Berkhamsted Walk seem very remote as the committee prepares for its 37<sup>th</sup> such event.

This year the long and short walks will be together to Frithsden, St. Margarets, Hudnall, and Little Gaddesden where they will separate at that favourite watering hole, the Bridgewater Arms. The short walk, about 10 miles, will make its way to the Management College at Ashridge and then into the Golden Valley, returning to the Court House via Frithsden Beeches.

The Bluebell woods at Ashridge close to the Monument were last year a sight of extraordinary beauty. We cannot promise such a display of nature's majesty again but the long route, about 16 miles, will go through the woods and the Bluebell sites to reach Norcott Hill, returning to the Court House via Northchurch Farm and Castle Hill.

The Stroll will be two miles or less in the buggy friendly grounds of the Management College while a longer, five miles, way marked route in the countryside will likewise reach the Monument and Bluebell sites to give an opportunity to see one of nature's most spectacular displays.

For **The Children's Society**, it is a matter of some disappointment that the proportion of children on the Walk has declined over the years

Our sponsor, the *Complete Outdoors* at Bourne End, shares our concern and is most generously offering a worthwhile prize to every four to fourteen year old who can be persuaded to participate in the Walk or Stroll. In addition, thanks again to the *Complete Outdoors*, the prize of a pair of Chris Brasher boots or outdoor goods of equivalent value is to be won by the walker of whatever age who raises the most sponsor money.

Please keep the date in mind and diary and get

ready for the challenge of the Walk and its opportunity to reinforce the healthy regime you promised yourself at the New Year. As importantly, it's an opportunity to support **The Children's Society** in its work to enable deprived children to reach out for a better future; please be with us on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### WINTERSHALL

The amazing five and a half hour open-air play, *Life of Christ*, takes place from Tuesday 28th June to Sunday 3rd July.

Northchurch Baptist Church have booked a 53 seater coach and bought 53 tickets for Saturday 2nd July. These are being advertised around 14 local churches, so hurry if you want a seat on the coach.

To book tickets, adults £13, children £6.50, contact **Shirley Wilyman** (862328). Don't miss this moving production in the beautiful grounds of Wintershall, in Surrey.

To make your own arrangements or to book a different day, or just to find out more, go to http://www.wintershall-estate.com or phone **Jane Porter** (874605)

#### EASTER MONDAY PILGRIMAGE

Hundreds of pilgrims are expected to make their way to St Albans Abbey for the diocese's annual Easter Monday Pilgrimage. Pilgrims from St Peter's and All Saints' can start with breakfast in the Court House at 7.45. The Easter Pilgrimage Celebration will take place at St Albans Abbey at 2.30.

### **TEAM MINISTRY**

The process of appointing a Team Rector moves slowly forward. A composite pack of the parish profiles of the five parishes that will be in the proposed Team Ministry has been sent to the Diocese for issue to applicants for the post of Team Rector. The profiles can be seen on the St Peter's website

http://stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk

	SUN S	it Peter's:	8:00am	Eucharist				
			9:30am Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House					
			6:00pm	Evensong				
	A	Ill Saints'	6 <sup>th</sup> 8:45am	Holy Communio	on – Methodi	st led		
			6 <sup>th</sup> 10:00am	All Age Mornin	g Worship – l	Methodist led		
	13 <sup>th</sup> 8:45am Eucharist - Anglican led							
	13 <sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship – Anglican led							
	20 <sup>th</sup> 10:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led							
S	27th 10:00am Family Eucharist – Anglican led							
(1)	TUE				All Saints'	8:00am Mo	rning Prayer (MP)	
<u>.</u>						9:30am	Eucharist	
1	WED S	St Peter's	5:00pm	<b>Evening Prayer</b>	All Saints'	7:30am	MP	
7				(EP)		8:00am	Eucharist	
	THU S	St Peter's		Eucharist	All Saints'	8:00am	MP	
	FRI S	St Peter's	5:00pm	EP Eucharist	All Saints'	0.00	MP	
	FKI S	i Peier's	9:15am	Eucharist	Au Sainis	8:00am 5:00pm	EP	
	SAT S	St Peter's	5:00pm	EP	All Saints'	8:45am	MP	
review services & activities	set o		•				G . II	_
λX	1 <sup>st</sup> Sun		one on their owr	R LUNCH 12:	30pm	Contact: Io	Court Hot an Morris (863780)	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon			ORT VISITORS	GROUP 7:4		Court Ho	
10	o mon						eves Brown (863268	
	Tue	HILLSIE	DE GROUP: 8	3.00pm at 22,Up	per Hall Park	for bible stu	dy.	_
$\mathbf{\Phi}$	Contacts: Rob & Julie Wakely (875504)							
O	Tue							
•	Tue		8	hort service as a			enny Wells (870981)	
	Tue	SIPEIR	ER'S CHOIR		5:15 to 6:15p · Adrian Day		St Pete Jean Wild (866859)	
<u> </u>	1st Tue	TUESDA	Y CLUB 8:15	ontact opm A lively wor		` /	` '	_
Φ				•			n Gregory (864829)	)
(n)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.							
	and en		embers always			Contact: Kat	thie Lally (863526)	
3	4 <sup>rd</sup> Tues			RAYER GROUI ds our prayers.	?: 2:00pm	Contact: Ic	17 Shaftesbury Cor enny Wells (870981)	
<u> </u>	Wed		•	as our prayers. neets about twice	a month		nny's 57 Meadow I	
1	Wed			11:30am as arra			Ruth's 1 Montague	
2			•		0		ves Brown (863268)	
6	Wed	PATHFI	NDERS GAM	ES CLUB 7-8:30	pm . (yrs 5-8)	) Jimmy You	ng (384929)	
							All Saints' H	lall
	3rd Wed	GRIEF A	AND LOSS SU	PPORT Lunch	_		nave been bereaved.	
	Thu	HOME C	CROUP: 8:00n	m on 2nd & 4th			ma Harris (865785) nda Bisset (862115)	
	Thu		_	yr 9+) 7-9pm		Young (38492		se
	Thu	,		m Priscilla Wat	•	0 (	,	
	Fri			ENT & TODDL	` •	, ,		use
		Weekly 1	meetings with a	a short service 1	st Fri in St Pe	eter's (10am)		
							y-Varndell (864094)	,
	Fri	ST PETE	R'S CHOIR	Children 7:00 S	.20mm Adarl	te 7.20 8.20m	n Ct Date	or's
			an s choin.			-	n. St Pete Jean Wild (866859)	

# reviewdiary

Please see opposite for a full list of regular services at St Peter's and All Saints' churches. A priest is available for confessions by appointment (866161).

MA	RCI	Н			
Tue	1	10.15am	Chuckles Toddler service A Very Big Picnic		
Wed	2	8.00pm	Lent Meeting - start with coffee at 7.45pm		
		•	& finish with Compline	The Court House	
Fri	4	10.00am	Little Fishes Toddler service	St Peter's	
		11.00am	Victoria School Mothering Service		
Sun	6	8.00am	Eucharist		
		8.45am	Holy Communion – Methodist led	All Saints'	
		9.30am	The Ven Helen Cunliffe, Archdeacon,		
			to celebrate & preach + Baptism	St Peter's	
		10.00am	All Age Morning Worship – Methodist led		
		6.00pm	Evening Prayer – said	St Peter's	
		7.30pm	Serenata Recital – with retiring collection		
			in aid of World Vision	All Saints'	
Mon	7	8.00am	Service of Wholeness & Healing	Lady Chapel, St Peter's	
Wed	9	8.00pm	Lent Meeting - start with coffee at 7.45pm		
			& finish with Compline	The Court House	
Sat	12	3-7pm	District Bellringing	St Peter's	
Sun	13	8.00am	Eucharist	St Peter's	
		8.45am	Eucharist – Anglican led	All Saints'	
		9.30am	Sung Eucharist		
		10.00am	Morning Worship - Anglican led		
		6.00pm	Choral Evensong		
Tue	15	10.15am	Chuckles Toddler service The Story of Easter	All Saints'	
		7.45pm	Deanery Synod	All Saints'	
Wed	16	8.00pm	Lent Meeting - start with coffee at 7.45pm		
			& finish with Compline		
Sat	19	8.00am	Associated Churches Prayer Breakfast	Sunnyside Church	
Sun	20	6.00pm	De Profundis A Musical Meditation for Lent,		
			Chiltern Chamber Choir		
	20-	27 March	Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter Day		
Mon	28	7.45am	Easter Monday Pilgrimage breakfast		
		2.30pm	Easter Pilgrimage celebration	St Albans Abbey	
APR	RIL				
Mon	4	8.00pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing		
		11.00am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St Peter's	
		6.00pm	Service of Thanksgiving & Commemoration		
			for departed family & friends	St Peter's	
Sat	16	7.00pm	Deanery Confirmation Service –		
			Preacher: Christopher, Bishop of Hertford	St Peter's	
Sun	17		Area Committee Elections		

Registers are on page 17

# review factfile

### **CONTACT LIST**

Names and local telephone numbers for jobs, rotas and information (for clergy, parish officers, music, bells and banns etc. see back page). Parish Office in the Court House (878227) is usually open 9:30am-5:30pm Tues/Wed, 9:30-12noon Friday (answering machine other times)

	St Peter's	All Saints'
Altar service	Alan Conway (865798)	Felicity White (866223)
Chalice rota	Jean Green <i>(878227)</i>	Jenny Wells (870981)
Sunday School	Sally Emery (870656)	
Church maintenance	Christopher Green (863241)	David Brunt (873198)
Church cleaning	Jean Green (878227)	Kate Spall (873470)
Flower arrangements	Sarah Dawson (871614)	Sue Sismey (863885)
Sunday morning coffee	Rene Dunford (862420)	Sylvia Banks (871195)
Service recordings	Alan Conway (865798)	Janet Conradi (833402)
Intercessions	Martin Wright (866161)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Epistle Readers	Ron Fisher (865846)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Electoral Roll	Judith Limbert (873626)	Pat Hearne (871270)
Pathfinders	Stephen Lally (863526)	
Sidesmen	Carole Dell (864706)	John Banks (871195)
Catering	Val Atkinson (866792)	Christine Dipper (873006)
Hospice contact	Rachael Anderson (871997)	Jean Merrett (866263)
Christian Aid	Angela Morris (866992)	Muriel Johnston (866447)
Youth worker	Jimmy Young (876736)	Jimmy Young (876736)
Sunday Explorers		Carenza Wilton (875147)

### **March Hares and William Cowper**

The new window in St Peter's features on our cover again. Why? Because it's March and loping across the lower panel of the window is a very handsome hare. We all know the expression *Mad as a March hare* - but are hares mad in March? Chaucer used the expression, so it's been around for a few centuries. It's probably all to do with the breeding season. This begins in March and male hares can be seen pursuing and leaping around the females, sometimes several males around one female, but if the attention is unwanted the female will turn on the male, rise up on her back legs and box his ears. All this wild behaviour no doubt explains the familiar expression.

And why is there a hare, two in fact, in the new window? The window not only marked the Millennium, it commemorates the poet William Cowper, born in Berkhamsted in 1731. Later in life, when he lived in Olney, Cowper kept three pet hares, Bess, Puss and Tiny. They were a source of much pleasure to him, diverting his mind from the deep spiritual concerns that led him from time to time into profound depression. Cowper and his hares are also represented in the east window, but in the lowest panel in the middle, all but hidden by the marble reredos. Hence, a more accessible commemoration of the poet in the new window.

# review contacts

# General

The Revd Martin Wright, All Saints House, Shrublands Road (866161) (day off Monday)

The Revd Prof. Luke Geoghegan (NSM), 16 Gravel Path, (866361)

The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485) Mrs Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)

Miss Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 16 Broadwater (871283)

Mrs Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street (866278)

John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway (874993) Mrs Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road (870981)

Parish Administration: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House (878227)

Stewardship Recorder: Miles Nicholas, 46 Fieldway (871598) Churchwardens: Carole Dell, 4 Clarence Road (864706)

John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road (871195)

Parochial Church Secretary: Mrs Pat Hunt, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607) Council: Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way (863559)

it Peter's

Director of Music: Adrian Davis (864722)

Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild (866859)
Organist: Jonathan Lee (0794 1113232)

Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals: Revd Martin Wright (866161)

Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road (863804)

VII Saints'

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn (874894)

allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk

stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk

All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership. Anglican priest-in-charge Revd Martin Wright (see *General* above)

Methodist minister: Revd Paul Timmis, 32 Finch Road (866324)

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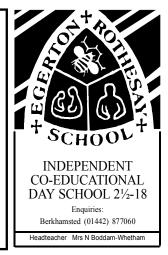
24 Shrublands Avenue Berkhamsted Herts HP4 3JH Tel. 871846 (after 6pm)

# DAVID GIDDINGS

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